

# Washes

## Options and Benefits



**M.A. Silva**  
Corks, USA

Product	Natural Cork			Colmated	Silktop	Pearl	Sparkling	Bar Top
Wash Designation	MSN40A	MSN45A	MSN140A	MSB49	MSB40	MSN40A	MSN140A	MSN45A
Tone Position (see note)								
Structure	Solid Natural Cork			Solid natural cork with cork aesthetic finish	1+1 technical cork	Micro agglomerated cork	2 disk technical cork	Solid natural cork

Note: Tone position indicates the relative position of the wash from lightest to darkest only. Contact us for samples.

### The Benefits of a M. A. Silva Cleaning Processes

- **TCA** - Cleaning processes play a critical role in reducing TCA and other off-aroma compounds that occur naturally in cork. When subjected to the boiling or wash solution and steam, TCA molecules volatilize and degrade. Other polyphenols that may affect the neutrality of the cork migrate out as well.
- **Microbiological growth** - Washes eliminate microbiological growth including bacteria, molds, yeasts and their spores.
- **Appearance** – Cleaning processes improve the appearance of the cork by balancing the color of the cork through the reduction of mineral deposits, tannins, and excess pigments.
- **Capillary performance** – For natural corks, the tumbling action of the Maszone wash smoothes the outer surface of the cork, allowing it to adjoin more uniformly to the bottleneck. This minimizes pores that could promote leakage.
- **Printing and Branding** - The smooth surface facilitates more intricate printing and branding.
- **Cleaning** - The cleaning solutions and steam work together during the washing process to remove dust and loose particles from the surface and pores.
- **Mechanical integrity** – The agitating motion of the Maszone wash process exposes structural deficiencies in natural corks that may lead to bottling, leakage, or extraction difficulties. This enables our state of the art electronic sorting equipment and skilled inspectors to better cull corks that exhibit even the slightest defect.

### What M.A. Silva Washes do not do

- Hide off flavors that may still leach out in wine
- Disguise TCA (2,4,6 trichloroanisole) instead of removing TCA
- Change the composition of the cork which then affects its bottling and oxygen management properties
- Coat the cork with a sealant such as vinyl acetate
- Cosmetically enhance the cork using fillers
- Add sealers or lubricants to the cork

### Wash Descriptions

To see a description of our advanced cleaning processes including Dynavox® for initial raw cork, SARA® for technical and micro- agglomerated particles, and Maszone® final wash, please visit our web site at [www.masilva.com](http://www.masilva.com).

[www.MASilva.com](http://www.MASilva.com) – 707-636-2530

3433 Westwind Blvd., Santa Rosa, CA 95403

M.A. Silva Corks, USA maintains a policy of constant improvement. Specifications may change at any time without notice.

6-24-10